LOCAL HISTORY RECORDER REPORT 2018

This year I wrote the historical perspective for the brochure used to sell shares organised by The Redgrave Community Society to buy the Cross Keys public house. I also provided images of old postcards of Redgrave for the web site and provided information which I had collected about the Cross Keys as local history recorder. I have also collected many of the newspaper articles on the purchase and re-opening of the Cross Keys.

I have written 10 articles for the parish magazine which included Telephone Kiosks, The Manor of Redgrave owned by the Abbot of Bury, Planning and Building in Redgrave, Botesdale and Rickinghall, White's Directory 1844, The Cross Keys, Redgrave Park, and the last three articles have been based on the poor and charities in Redgrave. I try to write an article on something that is topical locally or nationally but it is not always possible. The article which I have written for May this year includes research I have been doing on the fen and peat for the Peat Fest which the LOHP will be organising for the 7th May.

Last year Quatrefoil produced their 14th book which was Shops and Shopping recording four hundred years of retailing in Botesdale, Redgrave and Rickinghall by Graham Clayton. This included quite a lot about Redgrave shops. For our exhibition we had displays on shops and my display was on Redgrave Shops, and included the beam scales used in Waveney Stores in the first half of the nineteenth century. The grandson of Mr. Fisher who was the shopkeeper at Redgrave Stores in the second decade of the twentieth century and also bought Waveney Stores came to the exhibition. The next book will be on WW1 by Deborah Wells and our exhibition and talks will be on this subject on September 2nd. We hope to produce a book of old photographs of our villages so we would be very pleased to see any photos which could be re-produced in this book. We are very grateful to Redgrave Community shop for selling our books.

Jean Sheehan